VAMPIRELLA
MORRISON
MILLAR
CONNER
PALMIOTTI
MONTHLY

VAMPIRELLA®
MORRISON ❖ MILLAR
CONNER ❖ PALMIOTTI
MONTHLY
1
ISSUE NO. 1
CONNER PALMIOTTI '97

HARRIS COMICS
VAMPIRELLA
ASCENDING EVIL 1 OF 3
MONTHLY 1
MORRISON
MILLAR
CONNER
PALMIOTTI
CONNER
LIQUID!

HARRIS COMICS
VAMPIRELLA
ASCENDING EVIL 1 OF 3
MONTHLY 1
MORRISON
MILLAR
CONNER
PALMIOTTI
'97 PALMIOTTI

HARRIS COMICS PRESENTS:

ASCENDING EVIL
part one

WRITERS
Mark Millar
Grant Morrison

PENCILER
Amanda Conner

INKER
Jimmy Palmiotti

LETTERER
Hugh Monhan

COLORISTS
Reuben Rude & International House of Color

INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF COLOR IS:
José Arenas
Abel Mouton
Lea Rude
John Zaia
William Zindel

ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Lin Leng

FILM OUTPUT:
Kell-o-Graphics

EDITOR
David Bogart

about our cover

VAMPIRELLA NUMBERING SYSTEM

for all you sticklers for mindless info., chronic complainers, trivial pursuitists, numerologists, and quantum theorists, here is a simple, easy-to-follow diagram detailing the new vampirella monthly numbering system. since vampirella will read in three or four issue story arcs, each monthly issue will have a story arc title and a corresponding number as well as the actual ongoing monthly #.

story arc issue #

# of issues in story arc

actual issue number of the monthly

story arc title

FOR HARRIS COMICS

PUBLISHER
Stanley Harris

EXECUTIVE PUBLISHER
Dennis S. Page

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER/ ADVERTISING
Jonathan Rheingold

EDITORIAL DIRECTOR
David Bogart

MANAGING EDITOR
Lin J. Leng

DIRECT SALES/ PROMOTIONS MANAGER
Yoshi Aino

CREATIVE DIRECTOR
Mark Mazz

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Seth Biederman

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Roy Mosny

DIRECTOR OF PRE-PRESS
Phil Dhom

COVER ARTISTS
Quesada & J. Palmiotti
Amanda Conner (Alt)
Jae Lee (Alternate)
A.Conner & J. Palmiotti (Alt)

COVER COLORISTS
Brian Haberlin
LIQUID! (Ultra-Violent Alt)
Brian Haberlin (Jae L Alt)
Haberlin Studios (C&P Alt)

SUBMISSIONS EDITOR
Dave Haddock

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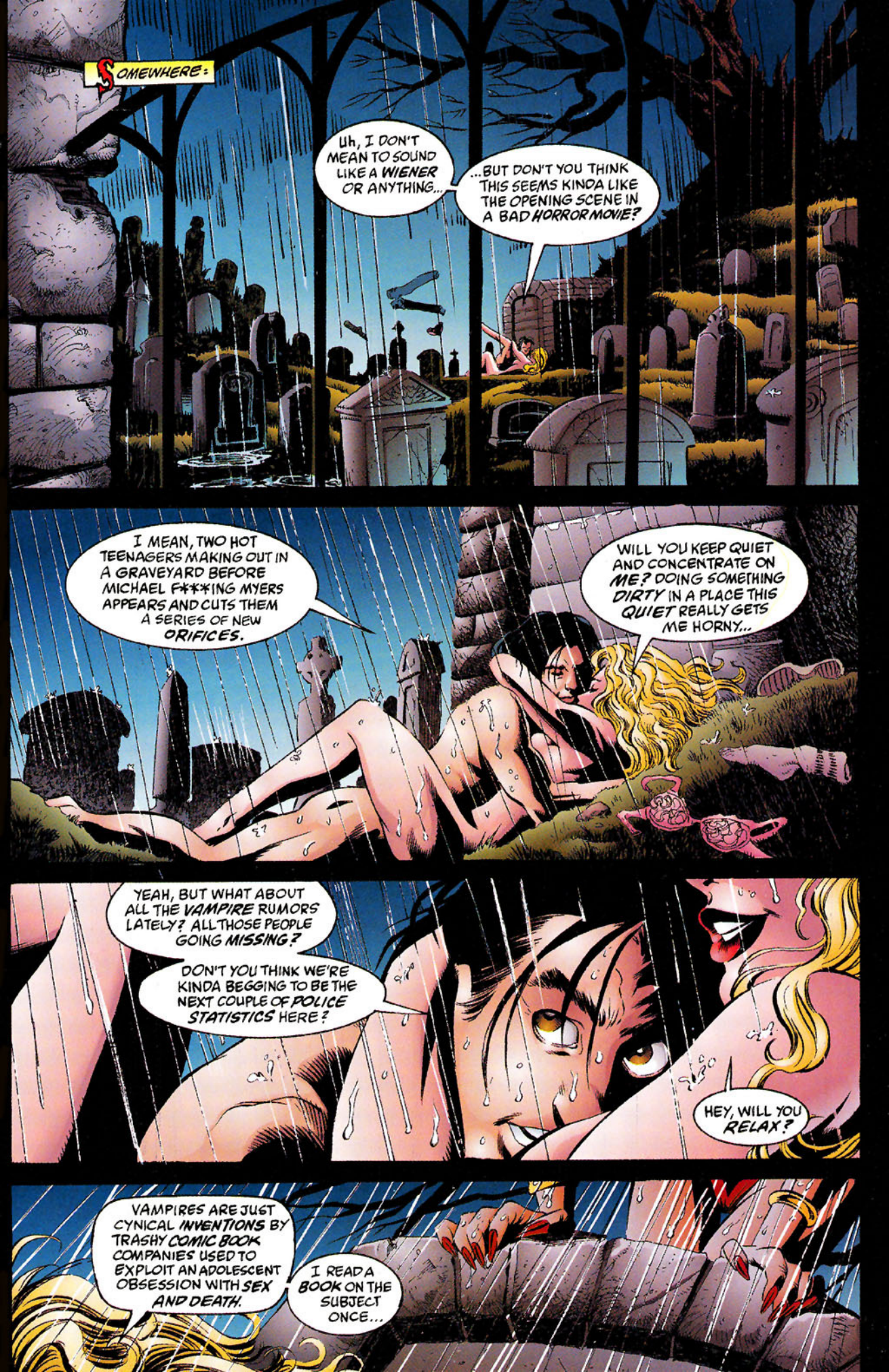
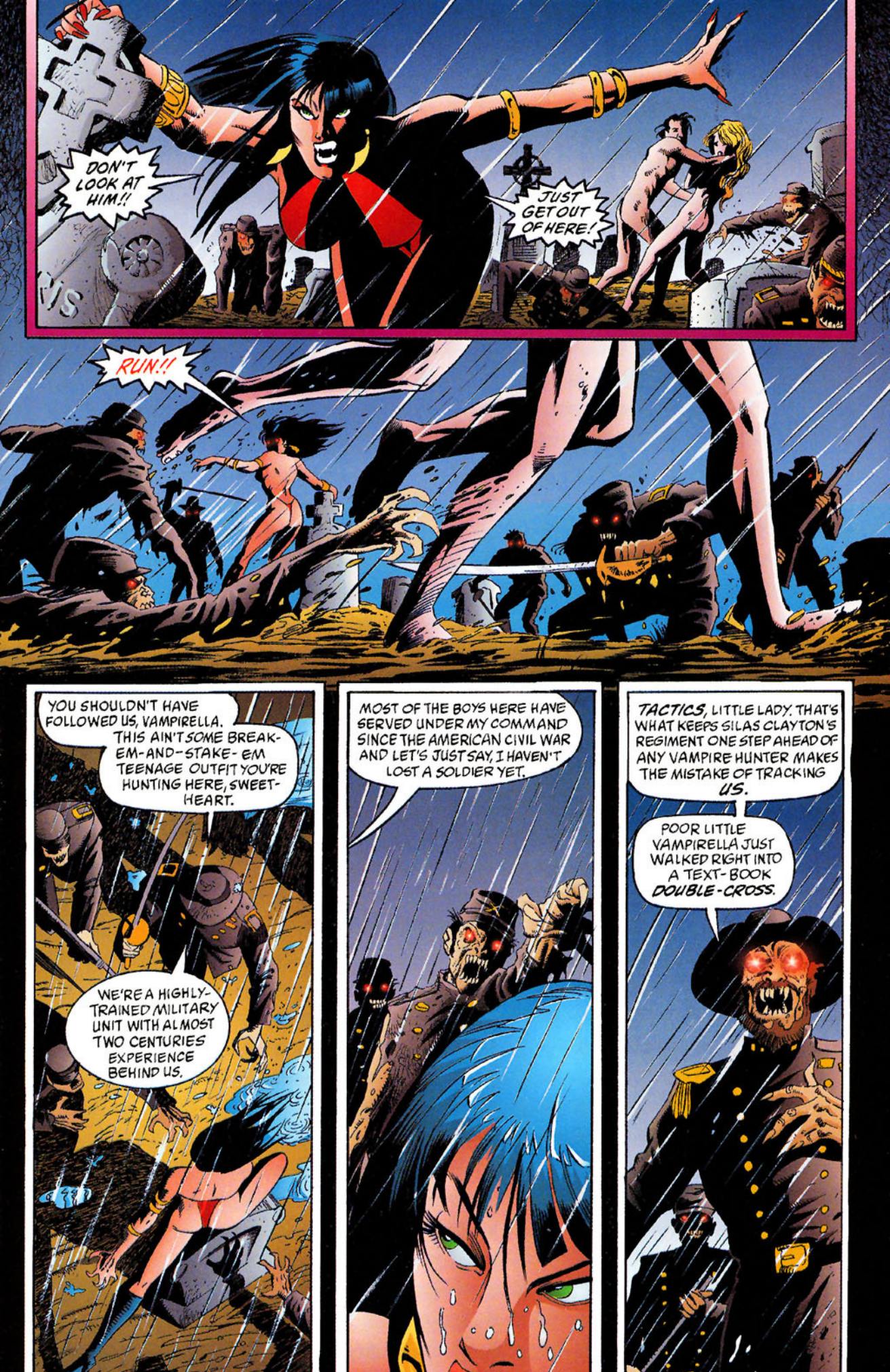

SOMEWHERE:
Uh, I DON'T MEAN TO SOUND LIKE A WIENER OR ANYTHING...
...BUT DON'T YOU THINK THIS SEEMS KINDA LIKE THE OPENING SCENE IN A BAD HORROR MOVIE?
I MEAN, TWO HOT TEENAGERS MAKING OUT IN A GRAVEYARD BEFORE MICHAEL F***ING MYERS APPEARS AND CUTS THEM A SERIES OF NEW ORIFICES.
WILL YOU KEEP QUIET AND CONCENTRATE ON ME? DOING SOMETHING DIRTY IN A PLACE THIS QUIET REALLY GETS ME HORNY...
YEAH, BUT WHAT ABOUT ALL THE VAMPIRE RUMORS LATELY? ALL THOSE PEOPLE GOING MISSING?
DON'T YOU THINK WE'RE KINDA BEGGING TO BE THE NEXT COUPLE OF POLICE STATISTICS HERE?
HEY, WILL YOU RELAX?
VAMPIRES ARE JUST CYNICAL INVENTIONS BY TRASHY COMIC BOOK COMPANIES USED TO EXPLOIT AN ADOLESCENT OBSESSION WITH SEX AND DEATH.
I READ A BOOK ON THE SUBJECT ONCE...

FORGET BOOKS, DARLING.
STICK WITH COMICS.
SHHRUKK
JESUS!
VAMPIRELLA!


DON'T LOOK AT HIM!!
JUST GET OUT OF HERE!
RUN!!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE FOLLOWED US, VAMPIRELLA. THIS AIN'T SOME BREAK-EM-AND-STAKE-EM TEENAGE OUTFIT YOU'RE HUNTING HERE, SWEETHEART.
WE'RE A HIGHLY-TRAINED MILITARY UNIT WITH ALMOST TWO CENTURIES EXPERIENCE BEHIND US.
MOST OF THE BOYS HERE HAVE SERVED UNDER MY COMMAND SINCE THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR AND LET'S JUST SAY, I HAVEN'T LOST A SOLDIER YET.
TACTICS, LITTLE LADY. THAT'S WHAT KEEPS SILAS CLAYTON'S REGIMENT ONE STEP AHEAD OF ANY VAMPIRE HUNTER MAKES THE MISTAKE OF TRACKING US.
POOR LITTLE VAMPIRELLA JUST WALKED RIGHT INTO A TEXT-BOOK DOUBLE-CROSS.

MAKE THAT A TRIPLE.
READY WHEN YOU ARE, PADRE.
INDEED, VAMPIRELLA.
ahem
LORD, AS YOU ONCE CLEANSED THE EARTH BY FLOOD, PURIFY THIS WATER NOW WITH THE LIGHT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WASH AWAY THESE ABOMINATIONS.
<IN NOMINE PATRIS...>
<ET FILIOS...>
"<ET SPIRITO SANCTUS> AMEN!"
FSSSS
FSSSSS
FSSSSS
AAAAAA
F-SSSSSSSSSSSSSSSS
THE RAIN!
HE'S CHANGED THE RAIN INTO HOLY WATER!
FSSSS
FSSSS
YOU CHEATING BITCH...
NOT CHEATING, GENERAL.
JUST TACTICS.
HNNNN

SSHAK
HOLY BIBLE
I MEAN, IF YOU'RE A VAMPIRE, TOO, WHY HAVEN'T YOU DISSOLVED IN THE RAIN LIKE THE OTHERS?
JUST ONE OF LIFE'S LITTLE MYSTERIES, I GUESS.
BRILLIANT, MY DEAR. QUITE BRILLIANT.
HOWEVER, ONE PART OF THE PLAN HAD ME PUZZLED FROM THE START-- HOW COULD YOU BE SURE YOU WERE IMMUNE FROM THE EFFECTS OF THE HOLY WATER?
THANKS FOR THE HELP, OLD-TIMER.
A FEW DOZEN DOWN, ONE MILLION OF THESE BASTARDS STILL HANGING AROUND ON MY HIT-LIST.

A STANLEY HARRIS PRESENTATION

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MIDNIGHT IN NEW YORK:
" WE HAVE A NAME, MONSIGNOR PESARO. HER NAME IS VAMPIRELLA, AND DESPITE WHAT THIS EVIDENCE SUGGESTS, SHE IS NOT ONE OF US."
Vampirella
IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD
VAMPIRE-HUNTERS ARE NOTHING NEW. WE'VE HAD TROUBLE WITH THE OCCASIONAL VAN HELSING IN THE PAST, BUT THIS IS BECOMING QUITE SERIOUS.
FIRST SHE DESTROYED WHITECHAPEL AND STOPPED THE RESURRECTION OF THE ELDEST SON.* NOW, ROME INFORMS US SHE'S DISRUPTED MUCH OF THEIR NORTH AMERICAN BUSINESS, AND WARNS US THAT SHE'S GUNNING FOR OUR NEW YORK OPERATION.
THIS MATTER MUST BE DEALT WITH QUICKLY.
*VAMPIRELLA LIVES MINISERIES -- DAVE.
MY UNDERSTANDING OF THIS VAMPIRELLA WAS THAT SHE WAS NO MORE THAN A CIRCUS CLOWN, A SIDE-SHOW FREAK WHO SOLVED MYSTERIES IN HER SPARE TIME.
WHAT CAUSED SUCH A SMALL-TIME OPERATOR TO BECOME A THREAT TO THE ORDER, FATHER CALGI?
SAME OLD STORY, MONSIGNOR. SOMEONE KILLED HER AND SHE CAME BACK WITH A MORE DETERMINED ATTITUDE.
KILLED BEING A POOR CHOICE OF WORDS. PERHAPS TEMPORARY REMOVAL OF HER UNDEAD STATUS WOULD BE A MORE APPROPRIATE DESCRIPTION.

"GENTLEMEN, VAMPIRELLA HAS RISEN FROM THE GRAVE."

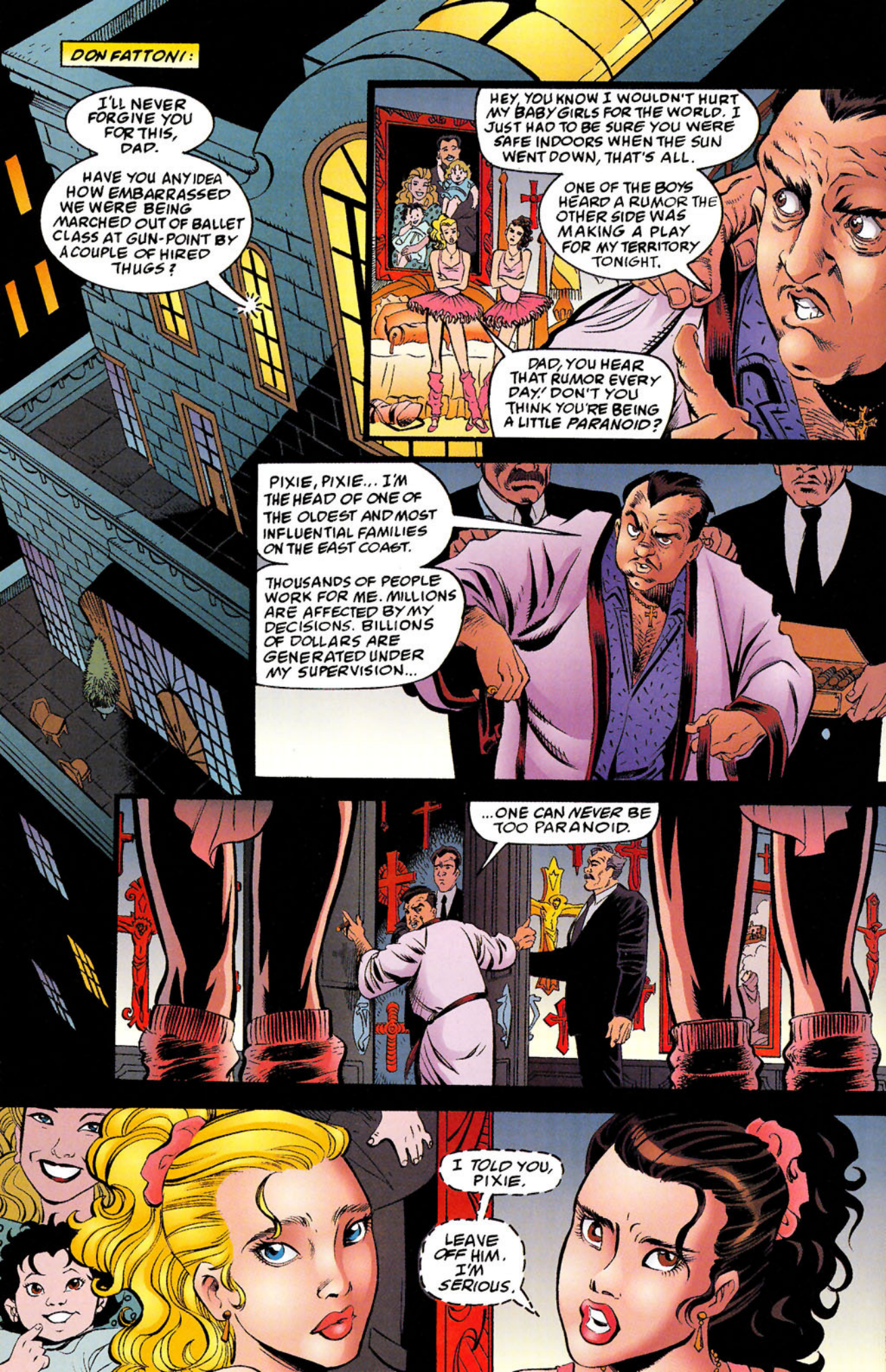
PICTURED HERE ON ETHEREAL-SENSITIVE FILM IS OUR OLD FRIEND MISTRESS NYX, WHO BLAMES HERSELF ENTIRELY FOR THE PRESENT SITUATION.
ALLIED WITH THE PSYCHO-KINETIC ASSASSIN HEMORRHAGE, SHE WAS THE ONE WHO MURDERED VAMPIRELLA AND SET HER ON AN ODYSSEY WHICH TOOK HER ALL THE WAY TO HELL AND BACK.
"HELL CHANGED VAMPIRELLA IN WAYS WE CAN'T IMAGINE. ALL WE KNOW FOR SURE IS THAT SHE RETURNED WITH A NEW ARSENAL AND A NEW MOTIVATION...
"NAMELY, THE SYSTEMATIC DESTRUCTION OF EVERY VAMPIRE SHE COULD FIND WHILE SHE SEARCHES FOR MISTRESS NYX.
"HER FORMER EXECUTIONER, OF COURSE, WENT INTO HIDING."
NATURALLY.
ANYTHING ELSE WE SHOULD KNOW?
ONLY THAT SHE'S KILLING EVEN MORE OF OUR PEOPLE ON A WEEKLY BASIS THAN THE HEPATITIS EPIDEMIC WE HAD TO DEAL WITH A FEW YEARS AGO.
CASE IN POINT...

"THIS FOOTAGE WAS TAKEN BY SECURITY CAMERAS IN THE BROOKLYN DISTRICT WE SECURED LAST YEAR.
"THE MOB SURRENDERED, THE POLICE LEFT US ALONE, THE WHOLE OPERATION WAS RUNNING PERFECTLY UNTIL SOME LUNATIC APPEARED WITH A FLAME-THROWER.
"REMEMBER, THIS WAS AN AREA POPULATED ALMOST ENTIRELY BY VAMPIRES, A PLACE WHERE THEY COULD BE SAFE WHILE THEY OPERATED IN OTHER DISTRICTS...
"NOBODY EXPECTED TROUBLE...
"...BUT TROUBLE CAME.
"HOW MANY TIMES HAVE WE BEEN HERE BEFORE? A VICTIM'S FRIEND OR FAMILY TRACKS US DOWN, ARMED WITH THEIR FATHER'S OLD SERVICE REVOLVER OR A COUPLE OF TRUSTY FORTY-FIVES...
"WE'VE STOOD ON THE WRONG SIDE OF A GUN A THOUSAND TIMES OVER THE CENTURIES. IT'S HARDLY SURPRISING OUR PEOPLE REACTED THE WAY THEY DID."

"POOR SONS OF BITCHES...
"GARLIC, HOLY WATER, RELIGIOUS ICONOGRAPHY.
"HUMANS HAVE TRADITIONALLY USED THESE WEAPONS AGAINST US FOR CENTURIES.
" NOT BULLETS...
"IT WAS ONLY AFTER WE WATCHED THE FILM SEVERAL TIMES, WE REALIZED WHAT SHE'D DONE.
" LITTLE CROSSES CARVED ON THE HEADS OF THE SHELLS FIRED STRAIGHT INTO THE HEARTS AND FACES OF HUNDREDS OF VAMPIRES."

"THE EFFECTS WERE DEVASTATING.
"LIGHTS UP."

WOODEN STAKES FIRED FROM CROSS-BOWS, CRUCIFIXES PAINTED ON GRAVESTONES; IT SEEMS HER IMAGINATION IS MATCHED ONLY BY HER PASSION FOR KILLING.
SHE'S FAST, SHE'S STRONG, SHE CAN DO EVERYTHING WE CAN DO, BUT SEEMS UNAFFECTED BY ALL OF OUR WEAKNESSES...
SEIZING CONTROL OF ORGANIZED CRIME IN NEW YORK WAS ALREADY A DELICATE OPERATION, MONSIGNOR.
PERHAPS TONIGHT'S ASSAULT SHOULD BE POSTPONED.
TONIGHT'S OPERATION WILL GO AHEAD AS PLANNED.
AS FAR AS SHE'S AWARE, WE'RE JUST ANOTHER PACK OF VAMPIRES. SHE HAS NO IDEA WHAT SCALE WE OPERATE ON AND WE CAN USE THIS TO OUR ADVANTAGE.
CALL VON KREIST.
TELL HIM EVERYTHING YOU'VE TOLD ME.
HE'LL MAKE SURE SHE DOESN'T GET IN THE WAY WHEN WE MAKE A MOVE ON DON FATTONI TONIGHT.


DON FATTONI:
I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR THIS, DAD.
HAVE YOU ANY IDEA HOW EMBARRASSED WE WERE BEING MARCHED OUT OF BALLET CLASS AT GUN-POINT BY A COUPLE OF HIRED THUGS?
HEY, YOU KNOW I WOULDN'T HURT MY BABY GIRLS FOR THE WORLD. I JUST HAD TO BE SURE YOU WERE SAFE INDOORS WHEN THE SUN WENT DOWN, THAT'S ALL.
ONE OF THE BOYS HEARD A RUMOR THE OTHER SIDE WAS MAKING A PLAY FOR MY TERRITORY TONIGHT.
DAD, YOU HEAR THAT RUMOR EVERY DAY! DON'T YOU THINK YOU'RE BEING A LITTLE PARANOID?
PIXIE, PIXIE... I'M THE HEAD OF ONE OF THE OLDEST AND MOST INFLUENTIAL FAMILIES ON THE EAST COAST.
THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE WORK FOR ME. MILLIONS ARE AFFECTED BY MY DECISIONS. BILLIONS OF DOLLARS ARE GENERATED UNDER MY SUPERVISION...
...ONE CAN NEVER BE TOO PARANOID.
I TOLD YOU, PIXIE.
LEAVE OFF HIM. I'M SERIOUS.

THINK YOU
KNOW WHAT
SHOWGIRLS
DO FOR FUN?

THINK AGAIN!
PANTHA™
THE KITTEN WITH A KILLER INSTINCT!

PANTHA™

WRITTEN BY **MARK MILLAR** AND **JOHN SMITH**

PAINTED BY **MARK TEXEIRA**

A HIGH STAKES GAME OF SEX AND MURDER... WINNER TAKES ALL.

PROWLING VEGAS IN A TWO-PART MINISERIES STARTING IN DECEMBER!

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VAMPIRES? JESUS, WE'VE HAD THE BLACKS FROM QUEENS AND THE JEWS FROM FLORIDA, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE'VE EVER HAD VAMPIRES TRYING TO MUSCLE IN ON OUR TERRITORY.
BASTARDS SEEM TO BE POPPING OUT OF THE WOODWORK EVERYWHERE AND NO ONE'S SURE WHERE THEY CAME FROM OR HOW THEY GOT ORGANIZED.
WELL, IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION, WE'RE NOT ALONE, MORENO. CHICAGO, DETROIT, VEGAS AND TEXAS ARE BEING LEANED ON BY THESE SONS OF BITCHES.
PING
OUR FRIENDS IN EUROPE RECKON THEY'RE ALREADY AS BIG AS WE ARE. SOME ARE EVEN SAYING THEY'RE CONNECTED TO THE VATICAN IN SOME WAY.
MAYBE OUR FRIEND HERE CAN SHED A LITTLE LIGHT ON WHAT THEY'RE UP TO, HUH?
YOU HEARD THE MAN, BITCH.
START TALKING.
MEN ARE FROM MARS
WOMEN ARE FROM VENUS

GET ME OUT OF THESE CHAINS.

YOU MORONS JUST CAPTURED THE ONE PERSON WHO MIGHT BE ABLE TO KEEP YOU ALIVE HERE.

IS THAT A FACT?

BOYS, IT SOUNDS LIKE WE FOUND OURSELVES A **GOOD** VAMPIRE HERE. YOU KNOW, LIKE THE GOOD **ADOLF HITLER** WE MET YESTERDAY AND THE GOOD **JEFFREY DAHMER** WE DISCOVERED THE DAY BEFORE.

SHAAAK!

I ONLY CAME HERE TO HELP!

SOMETIMES I DON'T KNOW WHY I BOTHER!

CHUKKK

AAAAA! GET HER OFF!

SHOOT HER! SOMEBODY **SHOOT** HER!

OKAY, RELAX...

MORENO'S ON THE CASE.

BLAM BLAM BLAM

JUST ANSWER ONE QUESTION BEFORE WE LOSE OUR PATIENCE, SWEETHEART. WHAT WAS YOUR EVIL, LITTLE ASS DOING HANGING AROUND OUTSIDE MY HOTEL?

SNIKT

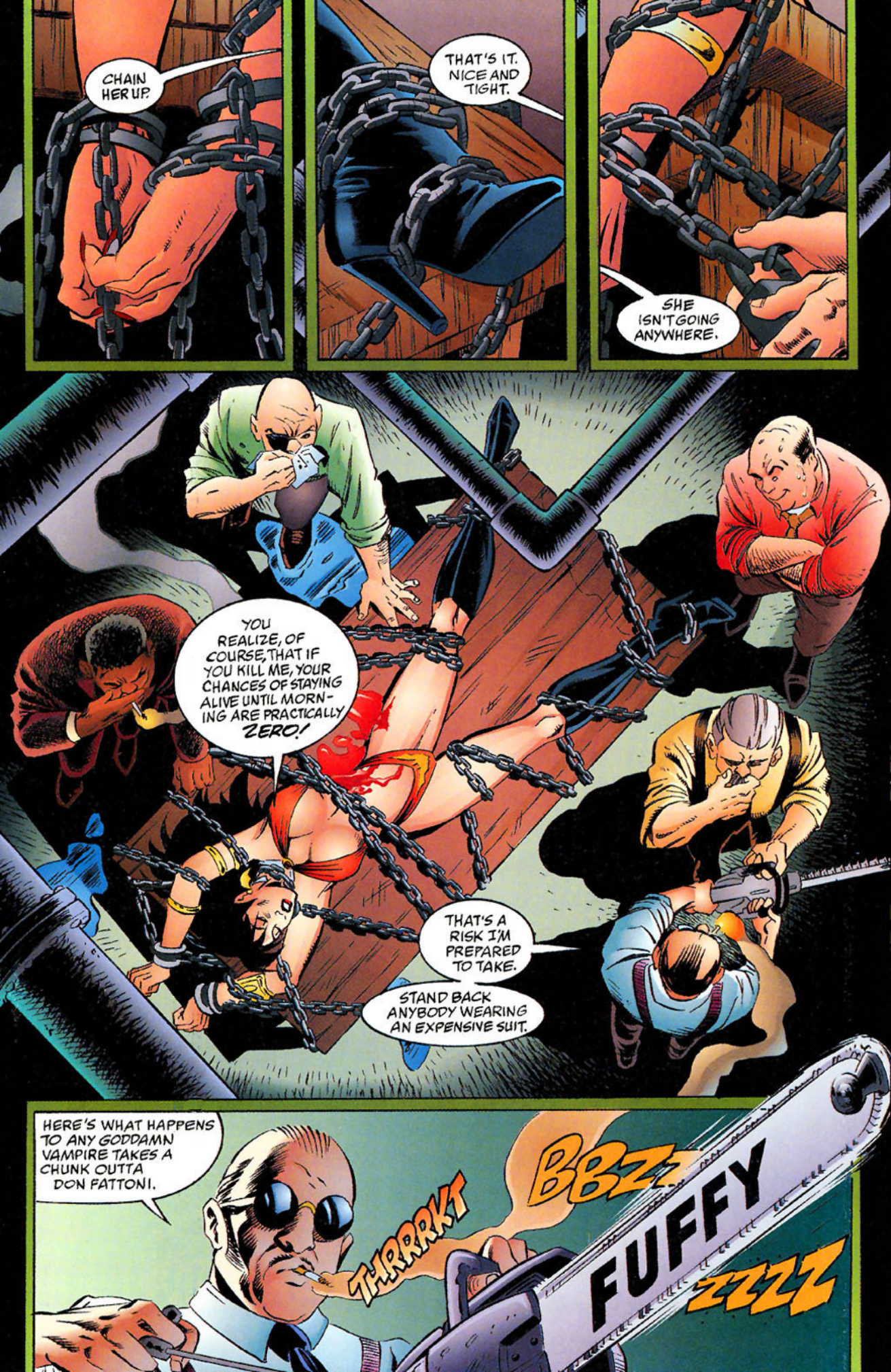
WHAT'S **WRONG** WITH YOU PEOPLE?

WHY DON'T YOU **UNDERSTAND?**

JESUS **CHRIST!** N-NICE WORK, MORENO. NOW GET THIS PLACE CLEANED UP AND GET RID OF THIS THING BEFORE IT REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS AGAIN.

I'M GOING UPSTAIRS TO LOOK AFTER THE GIRLS.

NO PROBLEM, DON FATTONI.


CHAIN HER UP.
THAT'S IT. NICE AND TIGHT.
SHE ISN'T GOING ANYWHERE.
YOU REALIZE, OF COURSE, THAT IF YOU KILL ME, YOUR CHANCES OF STAYING ALIVE UNTIL MORNING ARE PRACTICALLY ZERO!
THAT'S A RISK I'M PREPARED TO TAKE.
STAND BACK ANYBODY WEARING AN EXPENSIVE SUIT.
HERE'S WHAT HAPPENS TO ANY GODDAMN VAMPIRE TAKES A CHUNK OUTTA DON FATTONI.
THRRRRK
BBZZ
FUFFY
ZZZ

SATYR AND CIRCE, NO!
SOMEBODY GET ME OUT OF THESE CHAINS!
FUFFY
IT DOESN'T MATTER HOW TOUGH THEY PRETEND TO BE, THEY ALWAYS LOSE THEIR NERVE THE MINUTE THEY HEAR THE CHAINSAW REVVING UP.
HOLD HER STEADY...
FUFFY
I'M NOT SCREAMING ABOUT YOU, GREASEBALL...
...I'M SCREAMING ABOUT THEM!
THE BUILDING'S UNDER ATTACK!
THEY'RE HERE!
-- JESUS!

214
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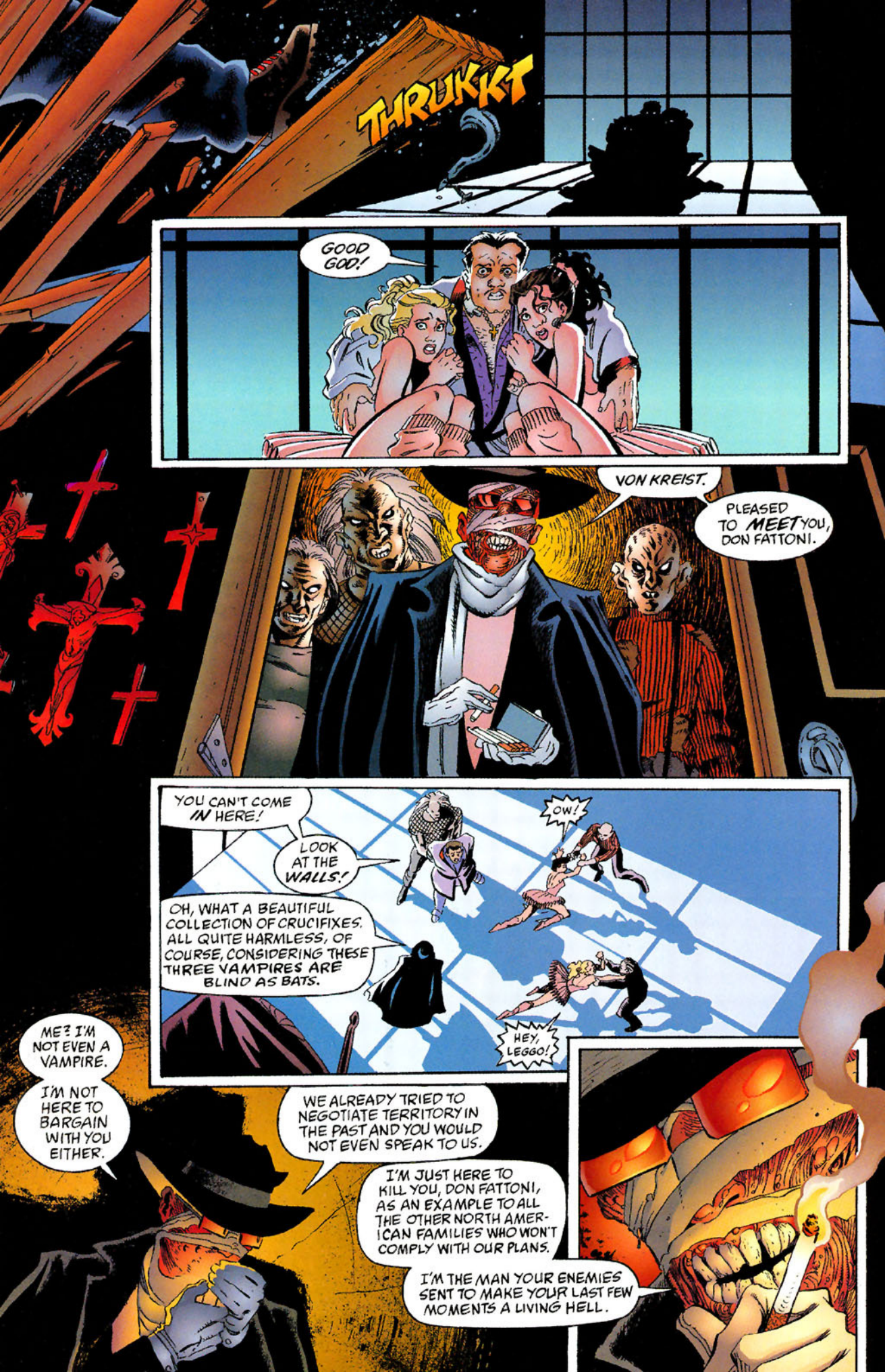
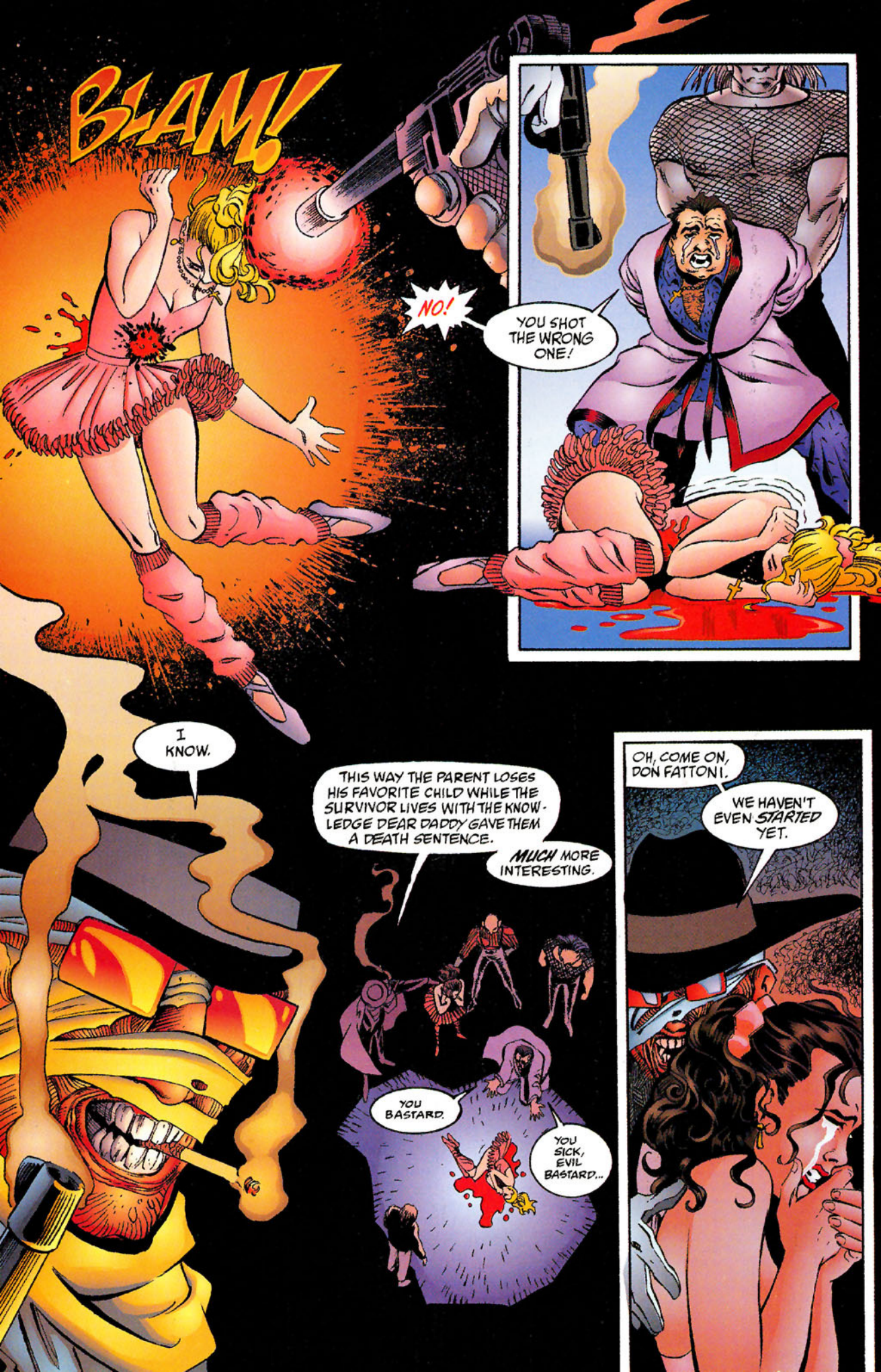
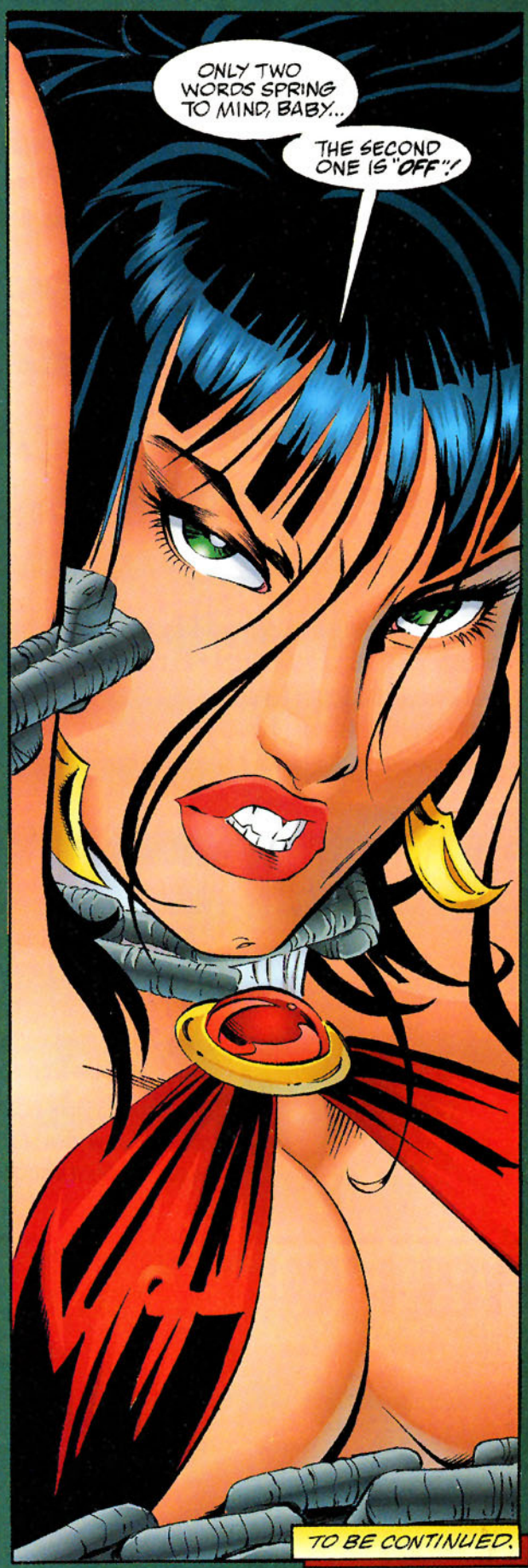
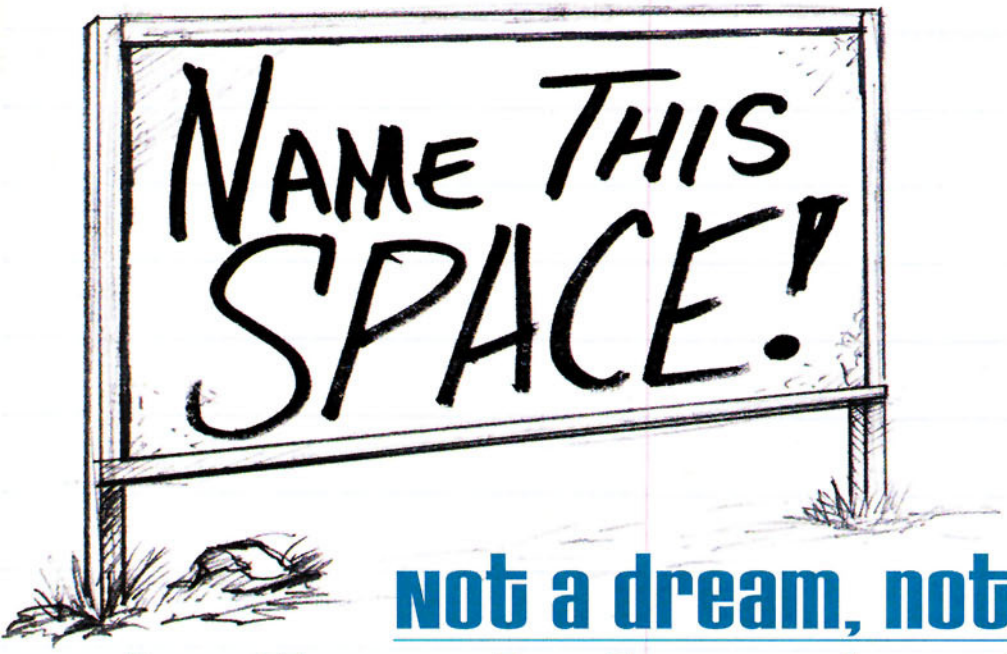

THRUKKT
GOOD GOD!
VON KREIST.
PLEASED TO MEET YOU, DON FATTONI.
YOU CAN'T COME IN HERE!
LOOK AT THE WALLS!
OH, WHAT A BEAUTIFUL COLLECTION OF CRUCIFIXES. ALL QUITE HARMLESS, OF COURSE, CONSIDERING THESE THREE VAMPIRES ARE BLIND AS BATS.
OW!
HEY, LEGGO!
ME? I'M NOT EVEN A VAMPIRE.
I'M NOT HERE TO BARGAIN WITH YOU EITHER.
WE ALREADY TRIED TO NEGOTIATE TERRITORY IN THE PAST AND YOU WOULD NOT EVEN SPEAK TO US.
I'M JUST HERE TO KILL YOU, DON FATTONI, AS AN EXAMPLE TO ALL THE OTHER NORTH AMERICAN FAMILIES WHO WON'T COMPLY WITH OUR PLANS.
I'M THE MAN YOUR ENEMIES SENT TO MAKE YOUR LAST FEW MOMENTS A LIVING HELL.

SOPHIE'S CHOICE?
I DON'T SEE WHY NOT.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
SOPHIE'S CHOICE. YOU MUST HAVE SEEN THE MOVIE --MERYL STREEP'S KIDS ARE SENTENCED TO DEATH BUT SHE'S OFFERED A CHANCE TO SAVE HER FAVORITE.
THE MORAL DILEMMA HERE IS " WHO'S THE FAVORITE?"
PIXIE OR DIXIE?
TEN SECONDS, DON FATTONI! MAKE YOUR MIND UP OR BOTH YOUR PRECIOUS DAUGHTERS BITE THE BULLET.
YOU SICK BASTARD!
PIXIE.
THE ONE WITH HER MOTHER'S HAIR.
SAVE PIXIE.


BLAM!
NO!
YOU SHOT THE WRONG ONE!
I KNOW.
THIS WAY THE PARENT LOSES HIS FAVORITE CHILD WHILE THE SURVIVOR LIVES WITH THE KNOWLEDGE DEAR DADDY GAVE THEM A DEATH SENTENCE.
MUCH MORE INTERESTING.
YOU BASTARD.
YOU SICK, EVIL BASTARD...
OH, COME ON, DON FATTONI.
WE HAVEN'T EVEN STARTED YET.

DOWNSTAIRS:
ANY LAST WORDS YOU'D BETTER MAKE THEM QUICK BECAUSE WE'RE READY FOR DESSERT NOW, HONEY BUNS.
THAT'S WHAT YOU ARE NOW, HONEY.
JUST DESSERT.


ONLY TWO WORDS SPRING TO MIND, BABY...
THE SECOND ONE IS "OFF"!
TO BE CONTINUED.



not a dream, not a hoax, not a figment of your imagination!

This is truly the first issue of the new Vampirella monthly!!! In a real sense this is your comic. You asked us to return Vampirella to a monthly series. You asked for not only great artwork, but a story that would have you anxiously awaiting every new issue. We listened. Welcome to the next level for Vampirella.

We've got one request for you, the readers. Write us. Get involved. Let us know what you're doing as loyal Vampirella fans. After all, you're the ones really behind this book.

So what do you get if you write in? Besides all the glamour that comes along with seeing your letter in print... the offers from Hollywood agents, the fast cars, the beautiful girls... well, the most interesting, most thoughtful letter of the month will receive an amazing Vampi prize. What's the prize? Write in and find out.

and here's our newest idea:

The first ever Vampirella photo contest. We want your photos! Send us any picture of yourself, of your Vampirella collection, of anything somehow, some way related to Vampirella. If it's not obvious how your photo is Vampirella-related, write us a note and convince us. We'll run the coolest photos every month, and EVERYONE who enters gets free stuff! Of course, the best photo receives the BEST prizes. Get your film ready!

Send all mail to:

Harris Comics

c/o Vampirella Fan Letters
1115 Broadway; 8th Floor
New York, NY 10010

next month:

vampirella: the new monthly #2

"I Was A Teenage Vampire Hunter"

Taking the teenage Dixie under her wing, Vampirella trains her in the deadly art of vampire slaying. Together, they take the battle to the vampires to rescue Dixie's sister... in broad daylight! They don't come more hard-bitten than this! More high octane entertainment from the hot new monthly creative team of Grant Morrison, Mark Millar, Amanda Conner, and Jimmy Palmiotti. Youch!

Notes on the creators...

Always admired, often imitated, but never duplicated, they are the creative force behind the new Vampirella Monthly. But just who are they?

Mark Millar

His city destroyed, his parents killed, young Mark— along with his brothers Romulus and Remus— were reared and suckled by a she-wolf. After the founding of Rome and deciding politics was not his cup of tea, young Mark left Rome to his brothers, and turned to man's ultimate achievement-comics. Laboring in the UK (former masters of the United States) for the long-running *2000 AD MAGAZINE*, Mark made his break into real comics (American ones) with his brilliant run on DC's *SWAMP THING*. Always polite and ever demure, Mark still secretly suckles wolves.

Grant Morrison

A promising prize fighter, Grant "The Ooze" Morrison stood on the cusp of greatness until a title fight with Muhammad Ali left him brain damaged. Desperate for a way to support himself, he turned to comics— which was all he could read after getting hit a couple of times by the champ. Laboring on inferior British comics for ten years, it wasn't until 1988 that Grant developed enough higher reasoning skills to write American comics. He began with his critically acclaimed run on *Animal Man* for DC, and hasn't looked back since (a nasty side effect of his fighting days). When no one's watching, Grant still likes to "Rumble in the Jungle."

Amanda Conner

Drawing since she could hold a pencil, Amanda's early influences included illustrator Hilary Knight and Warner Brother's animator extraordinaire Chuck Jones. Enamored by the way they imbued characters with facial expressions and body language, Amanda strove to incorporate their grasp of characterization into her own work. Laboring on various fill-in issues for Marvel, it wasn't until her stint on *BARBIE* that she was able to display her own individual style and storytelling. After conquering the art world, Amanda hopes to become the world-famous inventor of something or another. She'll let us know when she figures it out.

Jimmy Palmiotti

The bad boy of the bunch, Jimmy was born and raised in Brooklyn and broke into comics at Marvel back in 1991. Incredibly talented, Jimmy has tackled almost every aspect of comics, including writing (*ASH,* and the upcoming *GUARDIAN* mini-series for DC), penciling (*VAMPIRELLA #0, PAINKILLER JANE #5,* and assorted covers) and, of course, inking. He is currently living and working in a log cabin in Brooklyn, hunting quail and other gamey birds for sustenance. He would like to be remembered as the co-founder of Event Comics.

Joe Quesada

Cover artist extraordinaire Joe Q got his start in the comics field coloring for Valiant Comics way back in the Dark Ages of comics (okay, the eighties). His break as a full-time penciler came six years ago on *SPELLJAMMER* (DC), which he followed up with fantastic work on *THE RAY* and *SWORD OF AZRAEL*. Forming his own company with pal Jimmy Palmiotti, Joe can now be found slaving away at the upcoming *ASH* monthly series. Words of wisdom from the Big Q: "Buy more Ash, read more Ash, kiss our Ash."

check out the next issue for bios on the rest of the vampirella crew!

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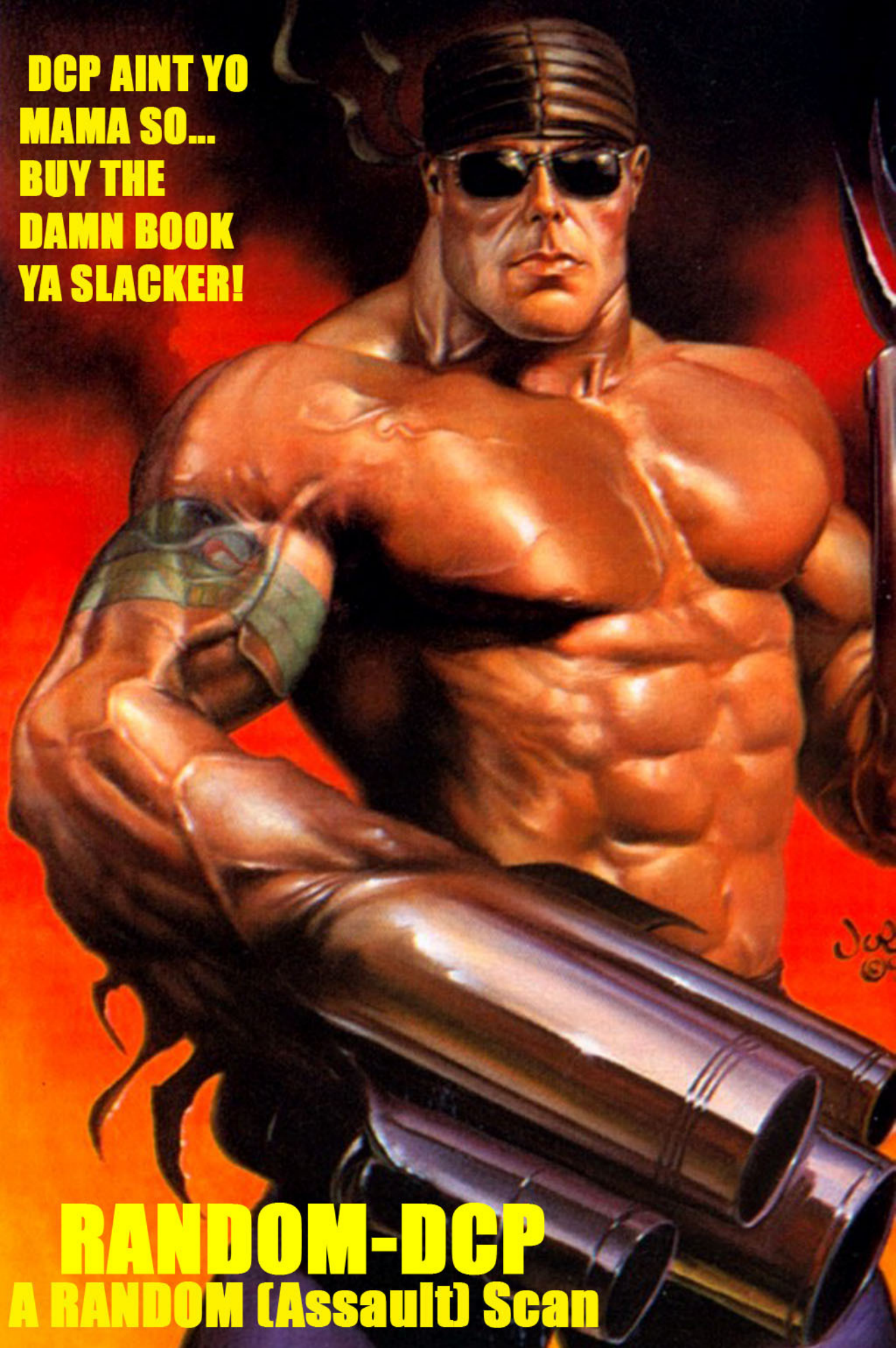
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